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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s)

Scott Smith

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HELICALLY FORMED STENT/GRAFT ASSEMBLY Dated:

January 25, 2002

Box: Patent Application Commissioner for Patents Washington, DC 20231 I hereby certify this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as Express Mail Label No. ET767843492US, Post Office to Addressee, postpaid in an envelope, addressed to the: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231

on January 25, 2002

Dated: 1/25/02 Junder Scheurle

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

In fulfillment of the requirements of candor and good faith set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.56, Applicant submits herewith the following Information Disclosure Statement in accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. §1.97 and §1.98. It is understood that the information provided herein is solely for the purpose of fulfilling Applicant's obligations under the law and should not be construed as nor is it intended to be an admission of prior art.

Copies of each of these references have been previously submitted in an Information Disclosure Statement submitted in the related application, U.S. Serial No. 09/345,026, or have been cited therein. Accordingly, the Examiner is invited to refer to such prior application for copies of each of the references.

I. UNITED STATES PATENTS

| | PATENT NO. | ISSUE DATE | PATENTEE | TITLE |
|-------|------------|-------------------|-----------------|---|
| Juta | 4,313,231 | February 2, 1982 | Koyamada | Vascular Prosthesis |
| Inta | 4,925,710 | May 15, 1990 | Buck et al. | Ultrathin-Wall Fluoropolymer Tube with Removable Fluoropolymer Core |
| INA | 5,108,417 | April 28, 1992 | Sawyer | Anti-turbulent, Anti-thrombogenic Intravascular Stent |
| Infa. | 5,123,917 | June 23, 1992 | Lee | Expandable Intraluminal Vascular Graft |
| gnfa | 5,282,824 | February 1, 1994 | Gianturco | Percutaneous Stent Assembly |
| Suk | 5,389,106 | February 14, 1995 | Tower | Impermeable Expandable Intravascular Stent |
| Inta | 5,443,496 | August 22, 1995 | Schwartz et al. | Intravascular Radially Expandable Stent |
| Swa | 5,466,509 | November 14, 1995 | Kowligi et al. | Textured, Porous Expanded PTFE |
| Onta | 5,500,013 | March 19, 1996 | Buscemi et al. | Biodegradable Drug Delivery Vascular Stent |
| SNA | 5,507,771 | April 16, 1996 | Gianturco | Stent Assembly |
| SAM | 5,562,697 | October 8, 1996 | Christiansen | Self-Expanding Stent Assembly and Methods for the Manufacture Thereof |
| gnfa | 5,562,728 | October 8, 1996 | Lazarus et al. | Endovascular Grafting Apparatus, System and Method and Devices for Use Therewith |
| gnya | 5,591,195 | January 7, 1997 | Taheri et al. | Apparatus and Method for Engrafting a Blood Vessel |
| Jula | 5,607,478 | March 4, 1997 | Lentz et al. | Yarn Wrapped PTFE Tubular Prosthesis |
| Snyg | 5,620,763 | April 15, 1997 | House et al. | Thin-Wall, Seamless, Porous Polytetrafluoroethylene Tube |
| Snya | 5,641,373 | June 24, 1997 | Shannon et al. | Method of Manufacturing a Radially-Enlargeable PTFE Tape- Reinforced Vascular Graft |

| | PATENT NO. | ISSUE DATE | PATENTEE | TITLE |
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| SHA | 5,653,697 | August 5, 1997 | Quiachon et al. | Dual Valve Reinforced Sheath and Method |
| guya | 5,674,241 | October 7, 1997 | Bley et al. | Covered Expanding Mesh Stent |
| gnye | 5,700,285 | December 23, 1997 | Myers et al. | Intraluminal Stent Graft |
| Sura | 5,713,917 | February 3, 1998 | Leonhardt et al. | Apparatus and Method for Engrafting a Blood Vessel |
| grad | 5,718,973 | February 17, 1998 | Lewis et al. | Tubular Intraluminal Graft |
| SHA | 5,735,892 | April 7, 1998 | Myers et al. | Intraluminal Stent Graft |
| gnta | 5,749,880 | May 12, 1998 | Banas et al. | Endoluminal Encapsulated Stent and Methods of Manufacture and Endoluminal Delivery |
| gnya | 5,766,237 | June 16, 1998 | Cragg | Method of Reinforcing a Body Vessel using a Intraluminal Stent |
| Jada | 5,782,904 | July 21, 1998 | White et al. | Intraluminal Graft |
| gnea | 5,810,870 | December 1, 1998 | Myers et al. | Intraluminal Stent Graft |
| Josta | 5,824,037 | October 20, 1998 | Fogarty et al. | Modular Intraluminal Prostheses Construction and Methods |
| Inta | 5,824,040 | October 20, 1998 | Cox et al. | Endoluminal Prostheses and Therapies for Highly Variable Body Lumens |
| July | 5,843,173 | December 1, 1998 | Shannon et al. | Radially-Enlarged PTFE Tape- Reinforced Vascular Grafts and Their Methods of Manufacture |
| SNIG | 5,897,587 | April 27, 1999 | Martakos et al. | Multi-Stage Prosthesis |
| Jala | 5,925,075 | July 20, 1999 | Myers et al. | Intraluminal Stent Graft |
| Jasa Sara Sara | 5,928,279 | July 27, 1999 | Shannon et al. | Stented, Radially Expandable, Tubular PTFE Grafts |
| gnsa | 6,063,111 | May 16, 2000 | Hieshima et al. | Stent Aneurysm Treatment System and Method |

II. FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

| | COUNTRY | PUBLICATION NO. | PUBLICATION DATE | TITLE |
|--------|------------------|-----------------|--------------------|--|
| Mh | PCT | WO 95/05132 | February 25, 1995 | An Intraluminal Stent Graft |
| gnya | PCT | WO 95/05555 | February 23, 1995 | A Thin-Wall Polytetrafluoroethylene Tube |
| Justa | PCT [*] | WO 96/28115 | September 19, 1996 | Endoluminal Encapsulated Stent and Methods of Manufacture and Endoluminal Delivery |
| Juja | PCT | WO 98/00090 | January 8, 1998 | Stented, Radially Expandable, Tubular PTFE Grafts |
| Sna | PCT | WO 98/27893 | July 2, 1998 | Kink Resistant Bifurcated Prosthesis |
| Juja | PCT | WO 98/27894 | July 2, 1998 | Implant Deployment Prosthesis |
| Joseph | PCT | WO 99/32051 | July 1, 1999 | Supported Graft and Methods of Making Same |
| Orta | Germany | DE 19531659A1 | March 6, 1997 | Spiral Stent |

The above-referenced documents are listed on attached Form PTO-1449.

Accordingly, in view of the present submission, it is now believed that the present application is in all respects complete, and in condition for examination and favorable consideration.

If the Examiner has any questions or comments relating to the present application, he or she is respectfully invited to contact Applicant's attorney at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,

6hn S. Sopko

Registration No.: 41,321 Attorney for Applicant(s)

HOFFMANN & BARON, LLP 6900 Jericho Turnpike Syosset, New York 11791 (973) 331-1700